10/070173 JC19 Tec'd PCT/PTO 04 MAR 2002

PATENT 0502-1002

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Dominique MORIN et al.

Appl. No.:

NEW NATIONAL PHASE

APPLICATION IN THE

UNITED STATES

Group:

Filed:

March 4, 2002

Examiner:

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For:

METHOD AND DEVICE FOR CONTINUOUS

TREATMENT OF COPPER SULPHIDE CONTAINING

ORE BY BIOLOGICAL LEACHING

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

March 4, 2002

Sir:

Prior to the first Official Action and calculation of the filing fee, the following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE:

Please replace the Abstract of the Disclosure with the rewritten Abstract of the Disclosure attached on a separate sheet attached hereto.